

VZCZCXYZ0000
RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHGT #0969/01 3131935
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 091934Z NOV 09
FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0367
INFO WHA CENTRAL AMERICAN COLLECTIVE
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC
RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC
RHMFISS/CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC
RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO 0099

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 000969

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 2024/11/09
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [SNAR](#) [PINR](#) [KDEM](#) [SOCI](#) [GT](#)
SUBJECT: Congress Elects New Executive Board; Pre-Election Jockeying Under Way

REF: GUATEMALA 929; 2008 GUATEMALA 1573 CLASSIFIED BY: Drew G. Blakeney, Political and Economic Counselor, State, P/E; REASON: 1.4B, D Summary

[1](#)1. (C) On October 27 Congress elected a new Executive Board. Roberto Alejos, of the governing UNE party, was re-elected as President of Congress. Helpful President of Congress Re-Elected

[1](#)2. (C) On October 27 Congress re-elected Roberto Alejos, of the governing UNE party, as its president, and elected the eight other members of

[1](#)3. (U) All of the other eight members of the new Executive Board, which will be seated in mid-January at the beginning of the next session of Congress. Following the LIDER (for Cash)

[1](#)4. (C) Many deputies have already changed parties since the 2007 election. Where they sit has not so far impacted how they have voted on the r

[1](#)5. (SBU) The balance of power in the 158-member Congress has shifted since the 2007 election as follows. 2007 Now UNE (center-left) 51 32 GANA. As Elections Approach, UNE Under Strain

[1](#)6. (C) Looking to the 2011 presidential and congressional elections, Members of Congress are already considering whether to switch parties or not. ANA, the Big PiClata

[1](#)7. (C) GANA Co-Secretary General Manuel Barquin told Pol/Econ Counselor that he and Co-Secretary General Jaime Martinez recognized too late in

[1](#)8. (C) GANA Deputy and former President of Congress Jorge Mendez Herbruger told Pol/Econ Counselor that the GANA bench probably would not survive. The Missing Preacher

[1](#)9. (C) Several right-leaning deputies who are unenthusiastic about the prospect of a Gen. Perez Molina (Patriot Party) presidency anticipate t. Comment

[1](#)10. (C) Alejos' re-election is good news for the Embassy, particularly where our and CICIG's rule of law reform efforts are concerned. As ment. MCFARLAND